

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

T. KANDA, et al.

Application No.:

10/682,027

Filed:

October 10, 2003

For:

GAS-BARRIER MULTI-LAYER STRUCTURE

Group:

1772

Examiner:

TBD

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>
<u>UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98</u>

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 2, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find an European Search Report, and a copy of the document cited therein, in connection with an European patent application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents. This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In any event, the following Statement is made under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1):

Each item of information contained in this Information

Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure

Statement.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 396.43206X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

396.43206X00

APR 0 2 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Kanda, et al.

FILING DATE

October 10, 2003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examin Initial	er	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	_					
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						

APPLICATION

NO.

10/682,027

GROUP

1772

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examin Initial	er	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Transla Abstra		
							Yes	No	
	AE	0 409 666	1/23/1991	EP					
	AF								
	AG							1	
	AH								
	Al								
	AJ								
	AK								
	AL							1	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	European Search Report transmitted January 2, 2004 for EP No. 03 02 2701
AN	
AO	
AP	
AQ	
AR	

Examiner Date Considered

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.